August 20, 2009

OBEY ATTENDS JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT OF \$3.6 M FOR LOCAL ROADS

CONGRESSMAN, STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS TARGET FEDERAL FUNDS FOR DOWNTOWN PROJECTS

RICE LAKE, WI – Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI) today met at Rice Lake City Hall with State Senator Bob Jauch (D-Poplar), State Rep. Mary Hubler (D-Rice Lake) and local officials. They gathered to announce that the community will receive \$3.6 million in federal stimulus funds for three major downtown transportation projects. This federal funding was part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to the State of Wisconsin. Obey, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, was the major sponsor.

"Communities can't grow and they can't provide decent job opportunities without strong community infrastructure such as good roads," said Congressman Obey. "The purpose of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding is to meet community needs, ease the squeeze on local taxpayers and help stabilize the economy by stimulating construction jobs. These projects help do all three."

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which Obey was instrumental in producing construction funds were made available to states to generate job growth. Governor Doyle then included Rice Lake among the state approved projects. The efforts will upgrade Main Street, Pioneer Avenue and Haugen Road which are the major commercial and manufacturing corridors of the city. The projects are expected to be completed next year.

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